

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 09134

LIMDIS

FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (BRZEZINSKI, ZBIGNIEW)

SUBJECT: BRZEZINSKI VISIT: SINO-JAPANESE PFT NEGOTIA-
TIONS

SUMMARY: WITH RECENT SIGNS OF POSSIBLE REANIMATION
OF SINO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS ON PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP
TREATY (PFT), IT IS INCREASINGLY LIKELY THAT IN THEIR
MAY 23 - 24 MEETINGS WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI, JAPANESE
LEADERS WILL BE LOOKING FOR RENEWED EXPRESSIONS OF
USG SUPPORT FOR THEIR CONCLUSION OF CHINA TREATY. END
SUMMARY.

1. TOKYO PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT IN MAY 21 MEETING
WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA AND CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY
ABE, PM FUKUDA DECIDED TO SET IN MOTION GOVERNMENT
AND PARTY MACHINERY FOR RESUMPTION OF LONG-DELAYED
PFT NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINESE. REPORTEDLY, AMBASSADOR
SATO IN PEKING WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO SOUND OUT CHINESE
VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HAN NIEN-LUNG LATER THIS WEEK,
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WHILE FUKUDA IS EXPECTED TO HAVE ROUND OF MEETINGS WITH
LDP LEADERS AS WELL AS ANTI-PFT SEIRANKAI FACTION
MEMBERS FOR ONE MORE ROUND OF INTER-PARTY CONSENSUS-
BUILDING. CHINA TREATY WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED IN
DIET BUDGET COMMITTEE TO ALLOW PRO-PFT OPPOSITION PARTIES
TO WEIGH IN. ALTHOUGH NO FIRM DECISION HAS APPARENTLY
BEEN MADE ON POSSIBLE VISIT TO PEKING BY FOREIGN MINISTER

SONODA, PRESS HAS SPECULATED SUCH VISIT MIGHT COME OFF AS EARLY AS FIRST PART OF JUNE.

2. AS HAS HAPPENED OFTEN IN PAST, THESE EFFORTS TOWARD CONCLUSION OF PFT COULD EASILY BE DERAILED. NEVERTHELESS, PROVIDED NARITA AIRPORT OPENING GETS PAST CRISIS POINT, THERE APPEAR TO BE VARIETY OF POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, RELATING TO BOTH DIET MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL LDP MANUEVERING WHICH MAKE IT ADVANTAGEOUS FOR FUKUDA TO PUSH FORWARD ON PFT. MOREOVER, IT IS CLEAR THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S WIDELY REPORTED EXPRESSION OF US SUPPORT FOR CHINA TREATY DURING WASHINGTON SUMMIT EARLIER THIS MONTH HAS BEEN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN BOTH HELPING TO OVERCOME HESITATION OVER TREATY AMONG CERTAIN JAPANESE AND SPURRING FUKUDA TO ATTEMPT TO RE-OPEN PFT NEGOTIATIONS. DR. BRZEZINSKI'S PEKING VISIT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL IMPETUS.

3. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, IT IS PROBABLE THAT DURING THEIR MAY 23 - 24 SESSIONS WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI, BOTH FUKUDA AND SONODA WILL BE LOOKING FOR FURTHER EXPRESSION OF US APPROVAL FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO CONCLUDE PFT. MOREOVER, THIS IS QUESTION IN WHICH AN EAGER JAPANESE PRESS CORPS WILL BE UNUSUALLY INTERESTED. MANSFIELD

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